



THE PARKS REPORT

A Monthly Summary of Birmingham's System of Parks & Recreation Facilities

Park Board

- Montal Morton
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- Carly Miller
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- Larry D. Cockrell
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- William Parker
- Shonae' Eddins-Bennett
Director

Est. 1923

"You can't tell a kid that it's time to exercise; that's a turn-off...you have to say, 'Let's go to the park and have some fun!' Then you get them to do some running, play on the swings, practice on the balance beam, and basically get a full workout disguised as play."

—Arnold Schwarzenegger

My Corona Classroom

Area families were faced with a seemingly insurmountable mountain when the pandemic hit the nation and school doors were closed, forcing students, parents and teachers home to conduct classes virtually.

Simply put, many students just did not have the resources at-hand to be successful in a

See Schools Out for COVID, pg. 2



A local family uses the computer lab at Memorial Park Recreation Center to attend virtual classes.

They Had A Hammer

As busy as the Maintenance Division of Birmingham Park and Recreation is during the active months of summer—ball games, family picnics, joggers, anglers, nature lovers and others who frequent the parks—the true test falls on those days in February-April when staff works hard at cutting playing fields, pressure washing walls, replacing broken play equipment and making all those other necessary repairs to ready our facilities for patrons to enjoy.

See Kudos!, pg. 2

Upcoming

March 27, Sakura Festival, Botanical Gardens (Virtual)

April 10, UAB Spring Game

April 17, Magic City Classic

April 30 - May 1, UAB Graduation Ceremonies, Legion Field

Council President Pro Tempore Wardine T. Alexander, District 7, made \$15,000 available from discretionary funds for use at Roosevelt City Park and Recreation Center. Big Thanks!

We Are #OpenForPlay

Birmingham Park and Recreation venues offer rental space for seminars, weddings, parties, workshops and other activities...

VENUE:

FEBRUARY REVENUE:

Botanical Gardens	\$4,969.25
Legion Field Stadium	\$295.00
Recreation Facilities + Sports	\$6,075.00
Open Park Reservations	\$100.00

**January 2021 figures for Botanical Gardens should reflect an additional amount of \$1,562.50 that was unreported.*



Revenue from reservations for Feb. 2021 totaled \$11,439.25

Kudos!, from pg. 1

Horticulture Crew: prepared ball fields at **Cooper Green** and **George Ward Complexes** for game play; 4,104.24 acres of parks cleared of debris; 550 bags of litter taken out of the parks; 71.16 tons of trash disposed in the landfill; 75 bags of leaves removed; removed debris from grounds of **Highland Park Racquet Club**; placed landscaping mulch around greenery at pavilion at **East Brownville Park**; **Carpenters/Maintenance Crew:** removed concrete benches from pavilion at **Wiggins Park** and installed new benches; installed soccer goals at **East Pinson Valley Park**; started repair of baseball dugouts at **Woodward Park**; completed concessions stand at **Wylam Park**; repaired locks, doors and roof at **Inglennook Recreation Center**, **Willow Wood Recreation Center**, **Avondale Park**, **George Ward Park**, **Maintenance Shop**, **Greenwood Park**, **Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreation Center**, **Roebuck-Hawkins Recreation Center**, restrooms at **Marconi Park**, **Botanical Gardens**, **Kelly Ingram Park** and the **Office of Reservations at Legion Field Stadium**; **Plumbers:** working on various jobs at **Botanical Gardens**, **Legion Field Stadium**, **W.C. Patton Park**, **East Lake Park**, **Harrison Recreation Center**, **Roosevelt City Recreation Center** and **George Ward Park Softball Complex**; conducted backflow testing at all facilities; **HVAC Crew:** technicians are performing routine maintenance on A/C and heater units at all facilities; repaired HVAC units at **Cooper Green Baseball Complex**, **Legion Field Stadium**, **East Pinson Valley Recreation Center**, **Brownsville Heights Community Center**, **Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreation Center**, **Roebuck-Hawkins Recreation Center**, **George Ward Park Softball Complex** and **Howze-Sanford Recreation Center**; **Electrician Crew:** repaired field lights at **Marconi Park**; repaired parking lot lights at **North Birmingham Park**; repaired park lights and outlets at **Phelan Park**; repaired park lights at **Linn Park**; repaired outside rear lights at **Memorial Park**; replaced power line on building at **Harriman Recreation Center**; **Painters Crew:** working on various jobs at **Boswell-Highland Park Golf Course** and **Highland Park Racquet Club**, **Brownsville Heights Recreation Center**, **8th Avenue Fitness Center**, **Roebuck Golf Course** and **Legion Field Stadium**; **Special Events:** assisted volunteers with Feb. 20 cleanup day at **Avondale Park** and Feb. 27 cleanup day in the **Fountain Heights Community**; **Fence Crew:** fence repairs at **Woodward Park**.

Schools Out for COVID, from pg. 1

virtual classroom environment, isolated from friends and the comforting familiarity of the classroom and in-school learning.

The Birmingham Park and Recreation staff and system of 11 computer labs have proven to be valuable assets to many Birmingham families as they stare down the educational challenges presented by the coronavirus.



Meeting the Needs...



Shonae' Eddins-Bennett (red hat), director of Birmingham Park and Recreation Board, joins residents of the Highland Park community in 2020 to cut the ribbon at the new Rushton Park Community Garden.



City Councilor Clinton P. Woods, District 1, surveys the progress of the community garden at East Pinson Valley Park he championed with PIC funds. Patrons can expect to dirty their hands in spring 2021.



Thanks to the installation of a new fitness area at Crestline Park, funded by District 2 City Councilor Hunter Williams, nearby residents will find it a tiny bit easier to shed those COVID-15 pounds.